

LEOMINSTER & WIGMORE RURAL DISTRICT

Herefordshire

R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the years 1969 and 1970

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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(As at 31st December 1970)

G.H. Carter (Chairman of the Council)	Kimbolton
J.B.H.S. Paterson (Vice-Chairman of the Council)	Brimfield
Miss M.M. Baldwin	Pudleston
I.W. Basham	Richards Castle
R.J. Bemand (Chairman of the General Purposes Committee)	Humber
B.M. Brown	Little Hereford and Upton
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Miss H.M. Fairhurst	Shobdon
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W.J.M. Gee	Aymestrey
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E.N. Griffiths	Lingen & Willey
P.K. Griffiths	Stoke Prior and Ford
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J. Longman	Monkland
Mrs. M.G. Miles	Adforton, Stanway, Paytoe & Grange Walford, Letton & Newton
J.H. Morgan (Chairman of the Finance and Establishment Committee)										Eyton
D.H. Parry	Little Hereford and Upton
Mrs. J.T. Partridge	Middleton-on-the-Hill
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H.E. Shuker	Bodenham
Miss A. Stacey	Brampton Bryan & Buckton & Coxall
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Mrs. M. Whiteman	Adforton, Stanway, Paytoe & Grange, Walford, Letton & Newton
G.H. Williams	Wigmore
R.R. Worthing (Chairman of the Management Committee)										Orleton

Clerk of the Council .. G.A. Robson

To the Chairman and Members of the Leominster and Wigmore
Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the years 1969 and 1970, together with the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The vital statistics show a feature not commonly seen in rural districts, a higher than average birth rate, even before adjustment is made for age distribution over the past five years; while the death rate over the 5 year period is only slightly above average.

Both 1969 and 1970 were years of low incidence of infectious disease in the district, a characteristic also noted in the area of Leominster Borough: one usually notices this association between the statistics of the two areas.

My thanks are due to Mr. Emerson for his report and particularly appreciate the pig story in his last page.

G.D.K. NEEDHAM

Medical Officer of Health

G.D.K. NEEDHAM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Westfield Walk,

LEOMINSTER.

(Telephone: Leominster 2049)

J. PETER EMERSON, M.A.P.H.I.,

Chief Public Health Inspector,

E.R. KING, M.A.P.H.I.,

Additional Public Health Inspector (from 28.9.70)

Council Offices,

11, Corn Square, LEOMINSTER.

(Telephone: Leominster 2951/4)

STATISTICS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

			<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Area (in acres) ..	..	..	94,101	94,101
Estimated mid-year home population ..	..	..	9,650	9,630
Average number of persons per acre ..	..	..	0.1	0.1
Number of inhabited houses ..	..	..	3,419	3,302
Average number of inhabited houses per acre ..	..	..	0.04	0.04
Average number of persons per house ..	..	..	2.8	3.0
Rateable value ..	..	..	£253,667	£244,125
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ..	..	..	£967	£967

LIVE AND STILL BIRTHSLive Births

	<u>1970</u>			<u>1969</u>		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	69	85	154	69	76	145
Illegitimate	11	1	12	6	8	14
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	80	86	166	75	84	159
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

Comparability factor: 1.16	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966
Leominster & Wigmore R.D. (Crude)	17.2	16.5	15.1	16.7	16.0
" " " (Adjusted)	20.0	19.1	17.5	19.4	18.6
England and Wales	16.0	16.3	16.9	17.2	17.7

Illegitimate Live Births

Per cent of total live births:

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Leominster & Wigmore R.D. ..	7.0	9.0
England and Wales ..	8.0	8.0

Still Births

	<u>1970</u>			<u>1969</u>		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	-	-	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	1	1

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:

	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966
Leominster & Wigmore R.D.	Nil	12.0	13.5	12.4	Nil
England and Wales	13.0	13.0	14.3	14.8	15.3

INFANT DEATH RATESEarly Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 week old

	<u>1970</u>			<u>1969</u>		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3	1	1	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1	-	-	-

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966
Leominster & Wigmore R.D.	24.0	13.0	6.8	6.3	26.2
England and Wales	11.0	10.0	10.5	10.8	11.1

Neonatal MortalityDeaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

	<u>1970</u>			<u>1969</u>		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3	1	2	3
Illegitimate	1	-	1	-	-	-

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966
Leominster & Wigmore R.D.	24.0	19.0	6.8	6.3	26.2
England and Wales	12.0	12.0	12.4	12.5	12.9

Perinatal MortalityStill Births and Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

	<u>1970</u>			<u>1969</u>		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3	2	1	3
Illegitimate	1	-	1	-	1	1

Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966
Leominster & Wigmore R.D.	24.0	25.0	20.3	18.6	26.2
England and Wales	23.0	23.4	24.7	25.4	26.3

INFANT DEATH RATES (Continued)Infant MortalityDeaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	<u>1970</u>			<u>1969</u>		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	2	2	4	1	3	4
Illegitimate	1	-	1	1	-	1

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births:

		1970	1969	1968	1967	1966
Leominster & Wigmore R.D.	(Total	30.0	31.0	13.7	18.9	32.7
	(Legitimate	26.0	28.0	14.7	20.4	33.3
	(Illegitimate	83.0	71.0	Nil	Nil	Nil
England and Wales	(Total	18.0	18.0	18.3	18.3	19.0
	(Legitimate	17.0	17.0	-	-	-
	(Illegitimate	26.0	25.0	-	-	-

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Total number of Maternal Deaths .. Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>
Leominster & Wigmore R.D.	Nil	Nil
England and Wales	*	*

*figures not available

DEATHSTotal number of deaths from all causes

	<u>1970</u>			<u>1969</u>		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
	51	49	100	74	56	130

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

Comparability factor: 1970: 0.88	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966
1969: 0.89					
Leominster & Wigmore R.D. (Crude)	10.4	13.5	11.0	13.5	13.5
" " " " (Adjusted)	9.2	12.0	9.8	12.0	12.0
England and Wales	11.7	11.9	11.9	11.2	11.7

CancerTotal deaths from Malignant Disease

	<u>1970</u>			<u>1969</u>		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
	7	6	13	19	11	30

DEATHS (Continued)

Cancer Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966
Leominster & Wigmore R.D.	1.35	3.11	1.96	2.83	2.51
England and Wales	*	2.35	2.27	2.27	2.25

Cardio-Vascular DiseaseTotal deaths from Cardio-Vascular Disease

	<u>1970</u>			<u>1969</u>		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
	31	32	63	32	36	58

Cardio-Vascular Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966
Leominster & Wigmore R.D.	6.53	6.02	6.92	8.07	6.68
England and Wales	*	6.01	6.06	5.77	5.97

Respiratory DiseaseTotal deaths from Respiratory Disease

	<u>1970</u>			<u>1969</u>		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
	8	4	12	13	11	24

Respiratory Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966
Leominster & Wigmore R.D.	1.24	2.49	1.14	1.37	2.19
England and Wales	*	1.77	1.75	1.37	1.60

*figures not yet available

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

	1970			1969		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity, etc.	-	-	-	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	1	-	1	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	-	-	4	2	6
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	2	3	5	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-	1	3	1	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2	2	1	3	4
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	1	-	1	2	-	2
Other malignant neoplasms	2	-	2	6	2	8
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	-	1	1	-	-	-
Diabetes mellitus	-	-	-	1	2	3
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	-	1	-	-	-
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	-	-	-	1	-	1
Hypertensive disease	3	1	4	5	1	6
Ischaemic heart disease	11	15	26	12	8	20
Other forms of heart disease	4	4	8	3	6	9
Cerebrovascular disease	10	8	18	9	8	17
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	4	6	2	3	5
Influenza	1	-	1	-	-	-
Pneumonia	6	4	10	7	8	15
Bronchitis and emphysema	-	-	-	6	1	7
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1	-	2	2
Peptic ulcer	-	1	1	-	1	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	-	-	-	-	1	1
Cirrhosis of liver	-	-	-	1	-	1
Other diseases of digestive system	-	2	2	1	-	1
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	-	-	-	1	1
Congenital anomalies	-	-	-	1	2	3
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	-	1	-	-	-
Other causes of perinatal mortality	1	2	3	1	-	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	-	1	-	-	-
Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	1	3	-	3
All other accidents	1	1	2	-	1	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	-	1	1	-	1
All other external causes	-	-	-	1	-	1
	51	49	100	74	56	130

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN THE LEOMINSTER & WIGMORE RURAL DISTRICT DURING

THE YEAR 1970

(9)

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	2	9
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Infective jaundice	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	-	9

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE DURING THE YEAR 1970

(10)

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Measles	-	1	-	-	-	23	59	34	5	1	6	17	146
Scarlet Fever	-	1	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	10
Infective Jaundice	-	2	4	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	10
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	4	7	-	16
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN THE LEOMINSTER & WIGMORE RURAL DISTRICT DURING
THE YEAR 1969

(11)

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Measles	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Infective jaundice	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	3	7	
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	4	-	-	7	
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE DURING THE YEAR 1969

(12)

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Measles	7	-	1	1	3	-	14	8	1	-	-	-	35
Scarlet Fever	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Infective jaundice	-	-	11	21	26	15	13	3	10	3	1	3	106
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	5	-	-	9
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASECOMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS YEARSLeominster & Wigmore Rural District

Disease	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	39	7
Measles	9	2	89	24	73
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	2	2
+Infective jaundice	2	7	3	-	-
Acute Encephalitis:					
Infective	-	-	-	-	2
Dysentery	1	1	14	139	1
Food Poisoning	9	7	4	8	5
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	-	1	-	1	-
Non-Pulmonary	-	1	-	1	-

North Herefordshire

Whooping Cough	-	4	18	47	37
Measles	146	35	526	314	271
Scarlet Fever	10	4	11	11	29
Acute Encephalitis:					
Infective	-	-	-	-	2
Post-Infectious	-	-	1	-	-
+Infective jaundice	10	106	8	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	2	-	-	1	-
Dysentery	2	1	17	285	92
Food Poisoning	16	9	6	10	9
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	3	4	1	3	4
Non-Pulmonary	1	2	3	2	3

+Notifiable from 15.6.68.

COMPARATIVE CASE RATES OF CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	1970		1969	
	North Herefordshire	England & Wales	North Herefordshire	England & Wales
Whooping Cough			0.11	0.10
Measles	3.95	6.17	0.95	2.91
Scarlet Fever	0.28	0.27	0.11	0.33
Infective jaundice	0.28	0.44	2.86	0.48
Meningococcal Infection	0.05	0.03		
Dysentery	0.05	0.22	0.03	0.45
Food Poisoning	0.43	0.15	0.24	0.15
Tuberculosis:				
Pulmonary	0.08	0.19	0.11	0.20
Non-Pulmonary	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.05

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number on Register at 31st December, 1968.	26	13	8	8
New cases notified	1	-	1	-
Moved into district	-	-	-	1
Died from other cause	1	-	-	-
Number on Register at 31st December, 1970.	26	13	9	8

Year	New Notifications	Total cases on Register	Deaths	Recoveries
1966	-	67	-	-
1967	2	56	-	10
1968	-	55	-	1
1969	2	58	-	-
1970	-	56	-	-

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (Amendment) ACT, 1951

No action needed to be taken under this section during the period.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION OF REPORTSUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Inspections of houses under Housing & Public Health Acts	75	160
Caravans	37	75
Housing Applicants	24	55
Nuisances (other than drainage)	12	25
Drainage	52	21
Water Supplies	233	165
Food Premises	10	5
Food Vans & Stalls (Mobile Food Vans)	3	-
Slaughterhouses	69	83
Knackers Yard	-	1
Milk Regulations	16	5
Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning	7	14
Refuse Collection and Disposal	65	40
Rodent Control	11	23
Petroleum Acts	16	13
Local Land Charges	15	18
Miscellaneous	125	111
Revisits	187	110
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	4	-
Litter	-	2
Public Health Act & Dirty Premises	4	2
Civic Amenities Act	28	21
Sewage Disposal	1	-
Housing and Housing Management	18	21
Pest Control	2	-
Smoke	-	1
Swimming Bath	-	2
Food Hygiene Regulations	-	1
Factories Act	1	3
Building Regulations	2	5
Food Sampling	6	1
Small Dwellings Acquisition Act	1	-
Animal Boarding Establishment Act	1	-
Poultry Dressing	2	-
Dangerous Buildings	1	-
Improvement Grants	92	291

WATER SUPPLIESPublic Supplies

The Herefordshire Water Board are responsible for the various public undertakings in the district as follows:

Parish	Houses supplied direct		Houses sharing standpipes
	1969	1970	
Adferton	35	36	2
Aymestrey and Yatton	41	41	3
Bodenham	17	23	-
Brimfield	25	37	1
Hatfield (ex Bromyard)	2	3	-
Kimbolton	59	65	-

WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)Public Supplies (Continued)

Parish	Houses supplied		Houses sharing standpipes
	1969	direct	
	1970		
Kingsland	86	101	-
Leinthall Starkes	12	12	-
Leintwardine	176	179	9
Leysters	24	25	-
Lingen	25	25	-
Little Hereford	50	55	-
Lucton	20	21	-
Luston	103	104	4
Middleton-on-the-Hill	13	14	-
Monkland	16	16	-
Orleton	122	132	1
Pudleston	15	16	-
Richards Castle	30	30	2
Shobdon	110	116	-
Wigmore	77	79	-
Yarpole	59	65	-

Sampling of the Board's supplies was carried out periodically but the frequency was reduced towards the end of 1969 owing to the increased amount of work in the department: by the end of 1970 regular sampling was resumed. A smaller percentage of samples from main supplies was found to be unsatisfactory, this improvement was due to the new supply for Richards Castle which replaced the old unsatisfactory bore in July 1968. The Orleton supply was found to be unsatisfactory on one occasion each year.

Once more it has to be reported that, due to the amount of routine sampling which is necessary, very little progress has been made in checking individual supplies in areas newly served with water mains. Although spot sampling of mains water should be frequently carried out by local authorities, the amount of routine sampling could be reduced if the Water Board themselves monitored their supplies. It is a matter for concern that the Board do not have their own facilities for regularly checking the bacteriological standard of water they distribute. No self respecting food manufacturer would be without any form of quality control and neither should the Water Board.

A mains supply was installed in Bodenham during 1970 and work started and nearing completion on schemes to serve Docklow, Stoke Prior, Risbury, Eye and Moreton.

All Council housing estates which previously had local supplies operated by the Herefordshire Water Board have now been connected to the general mains in the area.

Other Water Supplies

Throughout the district a number of houses are without water supplies, and in parts without main supplies water is mainly from shallow wells and springs, often not of a satisfactory quality.

WATER SUPPLIES (Continued)Other Water Supplies (Continued)

Owners of property served by shallow wells should connect to a mains supply as soon as one is available. An incident serving to emphasise this occurred in Kingsland, when due to a choked drain, foul drainage leaked through defective joints and contaminated the well serving two adjacent cottages.

Trouble has been experienced in two places where small local supplies, from which the public draw water, are vested in the Council. In the first case the supply was intermittent and at times produced only a trickle of water. This was overcome by the provision of a storage tank fitted with a draw-off tap.

The second case concerned a supply which became obstructed and ceased to flow. The owner of the land through which the supply passed refused to allow entry for the purpose of restoring the supply and application had to be made to the magistrates court on two occasions for authority to enter and carry out the necessary work.

Water Sampling

A total of 335 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination during the period and sent to the laboratory at Hereford. These produced the following results:

	Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
	1969	1970	1969	1970
Main	49	42	6	2
Private	82	56	57	41

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths in the district. Four samples were taken from school swimming baths, one of which was unsatisfactory and the matter was rectified.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGEPublic Sewers, other than Council House Estates

Location	Number of dwellings connected	Sewage Disposal
Brampton Bryan	31	Septic tank
Kingsland	125	Settlement and filtration
Leintwardine	175	Septic tank
Luston	38	Settlement and filtration
Orleton	59	Settlement and filtration
Shobdon	67	Settlement and filtration

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE (Continued)Public Sewers, other than Council House Estates (Continued)

Location	Number of dwellings connected	Sewage Disposal
Wigmore	86	Land irrigation
Yarpole	14	Settlement and filtration
Brimfield	24	Settlement and filtration

During 1969/70 work on the schemes at Luston, Yarpole and Brimfield was completed, and the Bodenham scheme started.

The Council agreed to the following order of priority for further schemes:

Richards Castle
Stoke Prior and Wigmore
Monkland
Shobdon
Brampton Bryan
Kimbolton and Leysters

During 1970 additional staff was employed in the first stage of a revised system of maintenance for sewage disposal works which includes those on Council Housing Estates.

Much of the district has to rely on individual septic tanks where modern amenities are installed and for the less fortunate, many pail closets and privvies are still in use. The Council continued to subsidise by £1 the first emptying of septic tanks each year where no sewer is available.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse collections during 1969 and 1970 continued to be a fortnightly curbside collection. All of the refuse is disposed of by tipping at Shobdon, use of the tip at Brimfield ceased during this period.

Occupiers of catering establishments were offered a weekly collection upon payment, this has been taken up by only 4.

In November 1970 a tractor was purchased for use at Shobdon tip and other work and until the end of the year was operated on a part time basis by the driver of the refuse collection vehicle.

Under the Civic Amenities Act, five cars and one abandoned caravan were removed and disposed of. In only one instance was it possible to recover the cost incurred. A number of other cars were removed by the owners following informal approaches.

HOUSING

38 houses were built by the Council during the two years.

94 private houses were completed within the district and 2 dwellings provided by conversion.

Inspections of Dwelling Houses

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts	71	157
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	75	160
(2) (a) Number of houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	64	146

Houses dealt with under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957

Number of Clearance Areas	Nil	Nil
Number of houses in Areas	Nil	Nil

Houses dealt with under Sections 16 & 17 of the Housing Act, 1957

Demolition Orders made	5	8
Closing Orders made	6	4
Undertakings accepted	19	16

Notices Issued

Informal	7	9
Statutory	Nil	Nil

Action under Statutory Notices during the period

Proceedings under Public Health Acts	Nil	Nil
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Improvement Grants

Discretionary Grants approved	18	50
Standard Grants approved	19	32

Unfit Houses

Action in respect of unfit houses continued quietly as houses became vacant. As the figures show, very few are demolished, there being a ready market for this type of property for improvement and reconditioning.

In 1969 the houses in the Leintwardine (No. 1) Clearance Area were demolished, 6 by their owner and one by the Council in default.

HOUSING (Continued)

Four cottages in Eye Lane were purchased for improvement. Inquiries were held into the Leintwardine (No. 2) Clearance Area and the Brimfield (No. 1) Clearance Area, both of which were confirmed by the Minister.

In the Quarry Row area of Leysters, the outer wall of one of the Trustee Cottages collapsed in January 1969, and the occupants were 'temporarily' rehoused in a private dwelling by the owner of it. They are still in occupation.

The Council made an order for the purchase of two unfit houses at Mortimers Cross which was made the subject of a Ministry enquiry, as a result of which the orders were confirmed. Valuations by the District Valuer are awaited before the cottages are taken over and repaired.

Improvement Grants

The introduction of the 1969 Housing Act which increased discretionary grants from £400 to £1,000 was the big event in this field, this coincided with a change of emphasis by the Government from new house building to preserving the existing stock of houses.

Foreknowledge of the Act created a shortage of applications prior to August 1969, following which the department received an increase in the number of enquiries, 49 being dealt with by the end of that year.

Alas ! since the introduction of the higher grants, building costs have soared so much that except in the first months, little benefit of the increased grant has been felt. In fact, owners who improved their property with a £400 grant in 1968 were often better off than those receiving £1,000 in 1970.

Housing Applicants

During 1969 a number of housing applicants were rehoused at Kingsland, Orleton and Luston. At the end of 1970, 130 applicants were on the waiting list.

COUNCIL HOUSES

Parish	Name of Housing Estate	Number of Dwellings	Source of Water Supply	Sewage Disposal
Adforton	Orchard Close	6	Borehole (HWB)	Complete Works
Aymestrey	Council Houses	2	River (HWB)	Septic tank
Bodenham	Caldervale	10	Borehole (HWB)	Complete Works
Bodenham	Old Houses	4	Borehole (HWB)	Complete Works
Brimfield	Wyson Avenue	24	Borehole (HWB)	Complete Works
Brimfield	Wyson Terrace	6	Borehole (HWB)	Septic tank (Sinks only)

COUNCIL HOUSES (Continued)

Parish	Name of Housing Estate	Number of Dwellings	Source of Water Supply	Sewage Disposal
Brimfield	Old Council Houses	2	Shallow well	Septic tank (Sinks only)
Hope-under-Dinmore	Hill View	4	Shallow well	Complete Works
Hope-under-Dinmore	Cherrybrook Close	38	Borehole	Complete Works
Humber	Humber Close	29	Borehole	Complete Works
Kimbolton	Chestnut Avenue	12	Borehole (HWB)	Complete Works
Kimbolton	New Road	2	Shallow well	Septic tank
Kingsland	Boarsfield	22	Shallow well and River (HWB)	Public sewer
Kingsland	Old Council Houses	6	River (HWB)	Public sewer
Kingsland	Hostel	6	River (HWB)	Complete Works
Leintwardine	Rosemary	34	Shallow Well (HWB)	Public sewer
Lingen	Council Houses	4	Borehole (HWB)	Septic tank
Little Hereford	Temple Meadow	8	Borehole (HWB)	Complete Works
Little Hereford	Aynall Lane	2	Spring	Septic tank
Little Hereford	Old Council Houses	4	Borehole (HWB)	Cesspool (Sinks only)
Luston	Westland View	24	River (HWB)	Public sewer
Luston	Eye Lane	4	Shallow well	Cesspool (Sinks only)
Lucton	St. Peter's Square	6	River (HWB)	Complete Works
Monkland	Bakerlea	10	Borehole (HWB)	Complete Works
Orleton	Green Lane	10	Borehole (HWB)	Public sewer
Orleton	Halletts Well	12	Borehole (HWB)	Public sewer
Orleton	St. George's Crescent	20	Borehole (HWB)	Public sewer
Richards Castle	Springfield	10	Borehole (HWB)	Complete Works

COUNCIL HOUSES (Continued)

Parish	Name of Housing Estate	Number of Dwellings	Source of Water Supply	Sewage Disposal
Shobdon	The Grove	30	River (HWB)	Public sewer
Wigmore	Old Council Houses	8	Borehole (HWB)	Land irrigation (Public sewer)
Wigmore	Ford Street	16	Borehole (HWB)	Land irrigation (Public sewer)
Yarpole	James Close	8	Shallow well	Septic tank

HWB - Herefordshire Water Board.

OVERCROWDING

No new cases of overcrowding were reported during the period.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

There are 16 permanent and temporary residential sites in the district licenced for a total of 31 caravans. During the year one licence was renewed and 3 new licences were issued.

In addition to the above, there are 13 sites, catering for 218 caravans, approved for holiday purposes.

Problems under this Act arise, not from the licenced sites, but from itinerant caravan dwellers, many of whom leave the lay-bys in a deplorable state. In one instance proceedings were taken against a gipsy who occupied a van for several months at Maund Bryan.

CAMPING

There is still no camping problem within the district, although provision of a transit site for tents and vans is probably called for.

PETROLEUM LICENCING

Seventy licences were renewed during 1969 and 1970.

Proceedings were successfully instituted against a licence holder who permitted a derelict 'bus to be 'burnt out' adjacent to his petrol tank and pump.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPSFactories Act 1937 and 1948

Premises	Number on Register	Number of					
		Inspections		Written Notices		Occupiers Prosecuted	
		1969	1970	1969	1970	1969	1970
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	19	-	-	-	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by L.A.	35	1	3	1	2	-	-
(3) Other Premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by L.A.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cases in which defects were found:

	Found		Remedied	
	1969	1970	1969	1970
Sanitary Conveniences: Insufficient and defective	1	1	-	-

There are no factories in the district known to employ out-workers, and no notifications of outworkers within the district were received.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Fifteen inspections were made at various foodshops in the district during the period.

The undermentioned food was condemned as being unfit for human consumption:

	1969	1970
Meat	634 lb.	562 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.

Number of Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Manufacture of Ice-cream .. 1

Sale of Ice-cream .. 38

Préparation or Manufacture of Sausages, or potted, pressed pickled or preserved food

Butchers .. 1

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD (Continued)Food Premises

The following table lists the various food premises within the district, and indicates the number complying with Regulation 16 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, requiring the provision of a wash-hand basin, and Regulation 19, requiring the provision of a sink in certain cases.

Type of Trade	Number of Premises	Number complying with Reg. 16	Number complying with Reg. 19	Number to which Reg. 19 applies	Number complying with Reg. 19
(a) Grocers, (incl. sale of fruit, Fish, game, Vegetables, and pre-packed sugar confectionery)	32	26	11		8
(b) Restaurants and catering establishments (other than those in (c) below)	4	4	4		4
(c) Licenced Premises (Hotels, Inns and Clubs)	32	24	32		32
(d) Bakers and Confectioners	2	2	2		2
(e) Butchers	4	4	4		4
(f) Central Kitchen for School Meals	1	1	1		1

Milk Supply

The heat treated milk retailed in the district is supplied to the retailers by three firms outside the area. Untreated (farm bottled) milk is supplied by several local farmers.

There are five dairies (excluding farm dairies) registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959. These are all merely premises in which bottled milk is stored pending delivery.

9 samples of milk were taken by the department during the period for examination for Brucella Abortus. This work has suffered due to lack of time available, but with the appointment of an additional Public Health Inspector it is hoped to increase sampling in 1971.

Cream Sampling

In conjunction with the Public Health Laboratory Service and other Public Health Departments in the County, a series of cream samples were taken throughout the district in order to obtain evidence relating to the condition of cream as it is sold to the public.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Inspections of 100% of all animals killed in the slaughterhouse was carried out.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD (Continued)Poultry Inspection

Only one establishment is now operating in the district and is producing a number of dressed birds for distribution, approximately 550 per week out of a total kill of 2,500 being treated in this manner. An experienced qualified man is employed on the staff on the one day per week that dressing is carried out and inspection of abnormal conditions in the birds is his responsibility.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

There were no accidents reported under Section 48 of the Act.

Table A. Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year		Total registered premises at end of the year		No of registered premises receiving general inspection during the year	
	1969	1970	1969	1970	1969	1970
Offices	-	-	5	5	-	-
Retail Shops	-	-	8	8	3	-
Wholesale Shops	-	-	-	-	-	-
Warehouses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	-	1	1	-	-
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	1	1	-	-

Table B. Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspector to Registered Premises

1969	1970
4	7

Table C. Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises or Workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed 1969	1970
Offices	31	35
Retail Shops	36	36
Wholesale departments, warehouses	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public	3	3
Canteens	4	4
Fuel Storage Depots	3	3

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963 (Continued)Table C. (Continued)

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>		<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Total Males:	41	46	Total Females:	36	35

Table D. Exemptions

Part I	Space (Sec. 5(2))	..	..	Nil
Part II	Temperature (Sec 6)		..	Nil
Part III	Sanitary Convenience (Sec. 9)	..	..	Nil
Part IV	Washing Facilities (Sec. 10)	..	..	Nil

Table E. Prosecutions

NIL

Table F. Inspectors

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
Number of Inspectors appointed under Section 52(1) or (5) of the Act:	One	2 Part-time
Number of Staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act:	Nil	Nil

PEST CONTROL

All Local Authority refuse tips are treated at regular intervals for rats and vermin, and sewers and sewer outfalls received treatment when infested.

Properties Other Than Sewers	Type of Property			
	Non-Agricultural		Agricultural	
	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>
1. Number of properties in district	3853	4028	1075	1079
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	5	29	1	Nil
(b) Number infested by:				
(i) Rats	4	28	1	Nil
(ii) Mice	-	2	-	Nil
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	2	6	1	1
(b) Number infested by:				
(i) Rats	2	1	1	1
(ii) Mice	-	5	-	Nil

PEST CONTROL (Continued)

During the period, as a result of publicity following the infestations in Hereford by 'Woolly Bears', the grubs of Carpet Beetles, a number of enquiries were received concerning suspected infestations in the district.

In the Summer of 1970, one hornets nest was dealt with by the department and advice given to another occupier on how to treat one in his orchard.

GENERAL

In my last report I commented upon the number of complaints received regarding pig keeping. A glance through the record of the two years under review serves to substantiate my previous remarks. I did, however, have sympathy for one pig keeper whose premises had given rise to a number of complaints. An urgent message was received stating that during the preceding two days the smell from the premises was intolerable. An immediate investigation did not reveal conditions to substantiate the complaint, but an investigation further afield did reveal a farmer spreading manure which was the cause of the complaint and very much a case of 'give a dog a bad name'.

Many of the nuisances investigated were due to intensive animal and poultry rearing, either from the premises themselves or from the disposal of manure.

The work of the department has continued to be affected by lack of time and staff with the result that several aspects of the work have been neglected. It is hoped that with the appointment of Mr. King, the additional Public Health Inspector in September, 1970, that attention may soon be paid to these duties.

Once more I wish to record my appreciation of Mrs. Palmer's work; without her constant efforts the wheels of the department would shudder rapidly to a halt.

